Amalgamation of different therapies in Medical Education

2543. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA:
SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subordinate Legislation Committee of Lok Sabha had recommended to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in its 13th report that students of Medical Education may be exposed to other therapies also alongwith allopathy, to acquire additional skills for the benefit of the suffering humanity;

(b) whether the subject was taken into consideration in the second week of June last in a meeting of Secretaries of Health Ministries of various States; and

(c) if so, what is the trend of Government guidelines in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee on Subordinate Legislation had, inter-alia, recommended that the rules/regulations under Indian Medical Council Act be framed so as to enlarge the scope of Medical education by incorporating into it elementary knowledge of indigenous systems of medicine including Homoeopathy.

(b) Various recommendations of the Committee as well as related matters were discussed in a meeting taken by Secretary (Health) Ministry of Health and F W with Health Secretaries of States/UTs held on 12-6-97

(c) It was the considered view that allopathy, i.e. modern scientific system of medicine and Ayurveda Unani and Homoeopathy systems cannot be intermingled because they are distinct systems and each system requires extensive training. However, the possibility of providing services relating to indgenous system of medicine in general allopathic hospitals so as to give a wide choice to patients was considered to be feesible This approach was agreed to be adopted selectively.

Free supply of T.B. Medicines

2544. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMA CHANDRA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether T.B. patients in the country are not getting proper medicines as is evident from the news appearing in The Hindustan Times dated the 8th July, 1997 captioned "Hospital's austerity measures cost tuberculosis patients dear"; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to ensure free supply of proper drugs to poor patients throughout the country to control T.B.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Rajan Babu TB Hospital is a Referral Hospital under Municipal Corporation of Delhi with only indoor facility. There has been no stoppage of drugs for providing second line treatment to TB patients admitted in Rajan Babu TB Hospital as reported in the Press.